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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/657,128	09/09/2003	Yoshiharu Sasaki	8051-1012	9210

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EXAMINER

PHAM, HAI CHI

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2861

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/657,128

Applicant(s)

SASAKI, YOSHIHARU

Examiner

Hai C. Pham

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 09/09/03.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawada et al. (U.S. 6,213,020) in view of Verlinden et.al. (U.S. 5,871,879).

Kawada et al. discloses an image recording apparatus and method comprising a cylindrical support member (cylindrical recording drum 1) rotating in the primary scanning direction (as indicated by arrow A in Fig. 1) and on which is fixed a recording plate (100), a laser recording head (8) moved in an axial direction of the drum in the sub-scanning direction (direction indicated by arrow B in Fig. 2), the laser diode (81) being modulated and controlled by the laser diode driving circuit (110) to form an image on the recording plate. With regard to claim 5, although Kawada et al. does not explicitly disclose a tray or cassette for housing the printing plate, it is inherent to any printing

system to be provided with a housing cassette or magazine for holding the new printing plates for delivery to the printing station when needed.

Kawada et al. teaches the recording plate (100) being made of aluminum as a recording material, and thus fails to teach the image being recorded on a glass substrate, wherein the curvature radius of the cylindrical support member is set within a bending permissible stress of the glass substrate, and the radius of curvature of the glass.

Verlinden et al. discloses a printing machine for forming an image pattern on a recording material, which comprises a layer on a glass support capable of being unwound and wound and clamped on the surface of a printing cylinder (col. 8, lines 45-53).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the recording material as a layer coated on a glass substrate in the device of Kawada et al. as taught by Verlinden et al. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a wear-resistant photographic material as suggested by Verlinden et al.

With regard to claims 2, 3 and 6, Verlinden et al. further teaches the glass support being wound on the printing cylinder within the failure stress of the glass, but does not specifically teach the curvature radius of the support glass. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to set the curvature radius of the support printing cylinder within the permissible limit range, since it has been held that where the general conditions of a claim are disclosed in the

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prior art, discovering the optimum or workable ranges involves only routine skill in the art. In re Aller, 105 USPQ 233.

4. Claims 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawada et al. in view of Verlinden et al., as applied to claim 5 above, and further in view of Vogelgesang et al. (U.S. 5,342,682).

Kawada et al., as modified by Verlinden et al., discloses all the basic limitations of the claimed invention except for the cylindrical support member being formed with a plurality of discs arranged in an axial direction.

Vogelgesang et al. discloses a rotatable recording drums comprising a plurality of discs (drum sections 12) arranged in the axial direction (Figs. 1A-1B).

It would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to provide the recording drum of Kawada et al. with a plurality of drum sections or discs as taught by Vogelgesang et al. The motivation for doing so would have been to provide a sturdy drum body.

Contact information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hai C. Pham whose telephone number is (571) 272-2260. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM - 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David L. Talbott can be reached on (571) 272-1934. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



HAI PHAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER

June 24, 2005